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SUMMER 1988

AT ISSUE....A MEMORANDUM

We received excellent reviews on Spring 1988 and were pleased to hear that it provided you, the small-scale agriculture community, with useful information. We are asking for your continued support. Please continue to provide us with input on topics, technologies and events of importance to the small-scale farm audience.

The Office for Small-Scale has relocated and there is a

NEW ADDRESS and TELEPHONE NUMBER:

Office for Small-Scale Agriculture
Howard W. ("Bud") Kerr, Jr., Director
USDA/CSRS/SPPS
Suite 342
Washington, D.C., 20251-2200

Phone (202) 447-3640
DIALCOM - AGS3023

Small-Scale Agriculture Directory. We are asking for your support in our efforts to compile a national directory of small-scale agriculture specialists in research and education. The directory will be a useful tool for identifying where to go and get help on a particular small-scale topic. Durwin Knutson, an intern with the Secretary of Agriculture and assigned to this office, is giving leadership to this project. He is now contacting extension services, and state departments of agriculture, and other public and private agencies. We ask for your full cooperation, so that the directory will be as complete and accurate as possible.

TOPICS AND TECHNOLOGY

"Pesticides Sprayers for Small Farms" - Types of power and manual sprayers, parts, calibration, cleaning and maintenance and three appendices on mixing, guidelines and drift control are detailed in the 23 page publication. Make check for \$ 2 (includes postage and handling) to the University of Maryland, Cooperative Extension Service, 6200 Sheridan Street, Riverdale, MD 20737. Telephone David Ross (301) 454-3901.

Agriculture and Cities - Addressing a variety of topics important to small scale agriculture, proceedings of the 1986 conference "Sustaining Agriculture Near Cities" is now available. For a copy of the 296 page book send \$12 postpaid to the Soil and Water Conservation Society, 5715 N.E. Ankeny Road, Ankeny, IA 50021-9764. Telephone Sarah Olson (515) 289-2331.

Canola - A relative of cabbage and broccoli; could become an alternative cash crop in some northern states. A member of the mustard family, canola is an edible form of rapeseed. Contact - Earl Gritton, Agronomist, University of Wisconsin, Room 442 Moore Hall, 1575 Linden, Madison, WI 53706-1597. Telephone (608) 262-9539.

Grasshopper-killing Parasite - Developed by the ARS, is now being commercially produced by a Colorado firm under the name "NoloBait." This new technology is part of an effort aimed at avoiding the \$400 million annual damage caused by grasshoppers. Contact - John Henry, USDA-ARS Rangeland Insect Lab, Bozeman, MT 59717. Telephone (406) 994-3344.

Potatoes vs. Drought - Some varieties are more tolerant than others. Under dry conditions, the Nooksack produced as much as 60% U.S. No. 1 potatoes, whereas Russet Burbank only reached 40%. Contact - David E. Miller, Soil Scientist, USDA-ARS Irrigated Agriculture and Extension Center, Prosser, WA 99350. Telephone (509) 786-3454.

"You Are What You Eat" - The old maxim is proving truer than ever. "It appears that dietary fat harbors more than extra calories; it also has a tendency to turn into body fat." Contact - Joan M. Conway, Research Chemist USDA-ARS, Energy and Protein Nutrition Lab, Beltsville Human Nutrition Research Center, Beltsville, MD 20705. Telephone (301) 344-2977.

Ridge Tillage - By planting corn on raised beds of soil and restricting farm equipment traffic over fields to predetermined lanes, scientists believe farmers can restrict soil compaction, reduce damage to the soil structure and minimize depletion of organic matter. Contact - Norman R. Fausey, Soil Scientist USDA-ARS, Soil Drainage Research Unit, Columbus, OH 43210. Telephone (614) 292-9806.

Tip: WILD Flower Plantings - A 1987 federal law mandates that one-quarter of 1% of federal landscaping money for new highway landscaping be devoted to planting wild flowers. For a copy of A Small-Scale Agriculture Alternative "Wildflowers," contact - Bud Kerr, USDA-CSRS, OSSA, Suite 342, Washington, DC, 20251-2200. Telephone (202) 447-3640.

Small Watermelons - sweeter, firmer, and crisper than other small, "icebox" types could be big sellers here and abroad. Developed in 1984 by the University of Florida, ARS test-shipped to Europe, Mickylee and Minilee. They need no refrigeration. Contact - Lawrence A. Risse, Marketing Specialist, USDA-ARS, Export and Quality Improvement Research Lab, Orlando, FL 32803. Telephone (407) 897-7326.

Tillage Problems and Answers - Ernest E. Behn wrote "More-Profit With Less Tillage" in 1982. The book is a valuable tool for anyone interested in getting information on conservation tillage in general but especially till-planting. The price \$10 includes postage and handling. Contact - Behn Enterprises, Route 1, Boone, IA 50036. Telephone (515) 432-1569.

Market Diseases - Postharvest diseases and disorders of Beets, Chicory, Endive, Escarole, Globe, Artichokes, Lettuce, Rhubarb, Spinach, and Sweet potatoes are discussed and illustrated in "Agricultural Handbook Number 155." Contact - Harold E. Moline, Research Scientist USDA-ARS, Horticultural Crops Quality Lab, Beltsville, MD 20705. Telephone (301) 344-3128.

Information - The National Agricultural Library (NAL) serves as an information and referral service center for several important (and popular) topics i.e. Family, Aquaculture, Rural, Animal Welfare, etc. Contact - USDA-NAL Information Center Branch, Room 304, Beltsville, MD 20705. Telephone (301) 344-3704.

Rural Enterprise Association of Proprietors - (R.E.A.P.) - Individuals who are interested or involved in a rural alternative enterprise for the purpose of exchanging information and sources of supplies, providing education, improving markets throughout Western New York State. REAP would be interested in networking with similar organizations nation wide. Contact - Joan S. Petzen, Cornell Cooperative Extension, Cattaraugus County, Parkside Drive, Ellicottville, NY, 14731. Telephone (716) 699-2377.

IDAHO HERB GROWERS - Ongoing is training and research and the results of the workshops test plots will be published for distribution. Contact - Rick Parker College of Southern Idaho, P.O. Box 128, Twin Falls, ID 83303-1238. Telephone (208) 733-9554.

"The States' Role in Agricultural Marketing: Innovative Strategies" - State leaders are finding that effective marketing of agricultural products is essential. This publication defines agricultural marketing, discusses agricultural marketing approaches, and provides examples of innovative and successful programs in Texas, Washington, New Jersey, Wisconsin, and California. Also included is a directory of agricultural marketing officials from all fifty states. Costs \$6 includes postage and handling. Contact - Lisa Ann McLemore, Order Department, The Council of State Governments, Iron Works Pike, P.O. Box 11910, Lexington, KY 40578. Telephone (606) 252-6188 ask for publication C-102.

Tip: Ticks & Dogs - Control without dipping your dog in a messy solution reports the Arkansas Outdoors. "Not only easier, but the dog no doubt will prefer this method: Simply add two tablespoons of brewers yeast-garlic powder mix to your dog's food everyday. This is available at most health food stores."

[Mention of commercial enterprises or brand name does not constitute endorsement or imply preference by the U.S. Department of agriculture.]

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

August 14-18, 1988 - 43rd Annual Meeting of the National Association of County Agricultural Agents, Charlotte Convention Center in Charlotte, N.C. Contact - Johnnie Jones, III. Telephone (919) 527-2191.

August 24, 1988 - "It's Fresher From Ohio," Tradeshow and Food Showcase at Cuyahoga Community College (Metro Campus) in Cleveland, Ohio. Contact - Marisa Warrix, P.O. Box 387, Burton, OH 44021. Telephone (216) 834-4656.

October 23-26, 1988 - "New Crops" First National Symposium, Adam's Mark Hotel, Indianapolis, IN . Contact - Kathy Hymam, Purdue University Continuing Education, West Lafayette, IN 47907. Telephone (317) 494-2758.

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